

Biography

Jorge Canaca

Education:

Bachelor of Science – Ecology

Bachelor of Science – International Studies

1995-1999 Juniata College Huntingdon, Pennsylvania

International Studies – Non-Matriculated

1999 University of San Francisco Quito Ecuador, South America

Position Title: Director of Federal Government Relations and Regulatory Services

Organization: Grand Canyon State Electric Cooperative Association, Inc.

GCSECA: Arizona's electric cooperatives formed Grand Canyon State Electric Cooperative Association Inc. (GCSECA) in 1950. Their primary purpose was to create a nonprofit, nonpartisan group to give Arizona's electric cooperatives a unified voice in state and national regulatory and legislative matters. Resource-pooling and cost-sharing by our members have combined to help make GCSECA a strong, efficient statewide organization. In addition to legislative programs, GCSECA offers safety and loss control training; regulatory assistance; an annual education program; special project workshops; and a variety of communications tools to inform electric cooperative consumers and the public.

The Grand Canyon State Electric Cooperative Association (GCSECA) is a membership organization consisting of the six electric distribution and Arizona Generation and Transmission Cooperatives (AzGT) who collectively serve approximately 500,000 rural residents across 12 counties. GCSECA's member cooperatives are not-for-profit utilities that are owned by the people they serve, most of whom live in rural areas. These cooperatives depend on fewer consumer-members to share their costs and these consumer-members spend a higher percentage of their income on electricity than for-profit utility customers. On average, one third of these consumer-members live at or below the federal poverty level.

Responsibilities

In my capacity I work to define, develop and implement strategies, plans and tactics designed to positively influence federal legislative and federal agency rulemaking outcomes that may impact the GCSECA membership. Additionally, I develop and cultivate important relationships with federal government officials, Arizona Corporation Commission (ACC) Commissioners, policy and decision-makers, and other influencers that can carry broad impact to the GCSECA membership.